

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-02

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 PRS-01 NSC-05

NSCE-00 /025 R

DRAFTED BY PA/M:PDENNIS:JC

APPROVED BY PA/M:FGWISNER

S/S:JPMOFFAT

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

PA, S/S, S/PRS

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O 062006Z NOV 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 244438

TOSEC 796

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT JOSEPH ALSOP OP-ED COLUMN, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, WASHPOST, HEADLINED "PERILOUS SCENARIO IN THE MIDEAST."

2. IT IS TIME TO MENTION THE UNMENTIONABLE. BEFORE 12 MONTHS HAVE PASSED, THE UNITED STATES MAY WELL BE TAKING MILITARY ACTION IN THE PERSIAN GULF, IN ORDER TO COUNTER ANOTHER OIL EMBARGO.

3. AS THESE WORDS ARE WRITTEN, TWO QUESTIONS ARE STILL UNANSWERED THAT CAN AFFECT THE OUTCOME. THE FIRST QUESTION IS WHICH BLATHERSKITES WILL BE ELECTED TO THE NEW CONGRESS. THE SECOND QUESTION IS WHAT WILL BE THE RESULT OF THE RETURN TO THE MIDDLE EAST OF SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER.

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4. OF THESE TWO QUESTIONS, THE SECOND IS REALLY FAR MORE

IMPORTANT THAN THE FIRST. IF THE MIDDLE EASTERN DEADLOCK IS NOT BROKEN BY SECRETARY KISSINGER, THERE WILL BE ANOTHER ARAB-ISRAELI WAR. IF THERE IS ANOTHER ARAB-ISRAELI WAR, THE UNITED STATES WILL PROPERLY AID ISRAEL - WITH MOST OF THE BLATHERSKITES IN CONGRESS ON THE RIGHT SIDE FOR ONCE.

5. IF THE U.S. AIDS ISRAEL, HOWEVER, THE U.S. WILL BE INSTANTLY SUBJECT TO ANOTHER OIL EMBARGO. THE U.S. CANNOT AGAIN PERMIT OIL TO BE USED AS AN ESSENTIALLY MILITARY WEAPON WITHOUT A SUITABLE MILITARY RESPONSE. AND THAT RESPONSE CAN ONLY BE MADE IN THE PERSIAN GULF.

6. IF THE LOGIC OF ALL THIS IS NOT EVIDENT TODAY, IT IS BECAUSE WE NOW ARGUE ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT DOES NOT MATTER AND IGNORE EVERYTHING THAT DOES MATTER. IF SECRETARY KISSINGER SHOULD FAIL IN THE MIDDLE EAST, HOWEVER, THE COLD, HARD, CRUEL LOGIC WILL BECOME ALL TOO EVIDENT BEFORE VERY LONG.

7. THUS THE PRIME QUESTION IS WHAT CHANCE SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS OF ANOTHER OF HIS UNEXPECTED SUCCESSES. THE ANSWER, ALAS, IS THAT THIS TIME HIS CHANCE OF SUCCESS APPEARS TO BE MORE SLIM THAN EVER BEFORE. THE OBSTACLE IS THE NEGOTIATING ROLE OF THE TOAD-LIKE YASSER EL ARAFAT AND THE SO-CALLED PALESTINE LIBERATION ARMY.

8. THE EGYPTIANS AND JORDANIANS MUST BE SOMEHOW PERSUADED TO BEGIN INTERIM TALKS WITH ISRAEL, ON THEIR OWN AND WITHOUT ARAFAT. THEY WERE READY TO DO THIS BEFORE THE RABAT MEETING. THEY MIGHT HAVE GOT THROUGH RABAT IN GOOD SHAPE IF THE ITALIANS, OF ALL PEOPLE, HAD NOT PUBLICLY EMBRACED ARAFAT IN THE INTERVAL. IN ANY CASE, ALL WENT WRONG AT RABAT.

9. SECRETARY KISSINGER MUST THEREFORE PUT RIGHT WHAT WENT WRONG AT RABAT. IN GOOD CONSCIENCE, THE U.S. CANNOT PRESSURE THE ISRAELIS TO BRING ARAFAT INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS, SINCE ARAFAT AND HIS HENCHMEN ARE STILL PUBLICLY CALLING FOR ISRAEL'S DESTRUCTION. SO IT IS A MATTER OF GETTING THE EGYPTIANS AND JORDANIANS TO NEGOTIATE ON THEIR UNCLASSIFIED

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OWN HOOK, IN EFFECT IN DEFIANCE OF ARAFAT. IT WILL BE DESPERATELY HARD TO DO.

10. IT WOULD BE A LOT EASIER TO DO, OF COURSE, IF THE U.S. HAD NOT SO FLACCIDLY RESPONDED TO THE BRUTAL USES OF THE OIL WEAPON UP TO DATE. THE OIL WEAPON WAS USED MILITARILY, AT THE TIME OF THE EMBARGO DURING THE YOM KIPPUR WAR. THE OIL WEAPON IS STILL BEING USED ECONOMICALLY, IN

A WAY THAT MUST EVENTUALLY DESTROY THE ENTIRE FINANCIAL-ECONOMIC SYSTEM OF THE WESTERN PART OF THE WORLD. WE HAVE DONE NOTHING.

11. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT IS EASY TO SEE WHY THE ARABS CONSIDER THEY ARE IN AN IMMENSELY STRONG POSITION.

IF THEY RENEW THE WAR AGAINST ISRAEL, THEY WILL NOT ONLY HAVE THE OIL WEAPON TO USE AGAINST THIS COUNTRY. BECAUSE OF OIL BLACKMAIL, THEY CAN ALSO BE SURE OF THE ACTIVE POLITICAL SUPPORT OF ALL AMERICA'S ALLIES. THE SOVIETS FURTHER STAND READY TO POUR ARMS INTO EGYPT WHENEVER THIS IS PROPERLY REQUESTED.

12. THE KEY FIGURE ON THE ARAB SIDE IS EGYPT'S PRESIDENT ANWAR EL SADAT, AND THE KEY AND UNIQUE ASSET ON OUR SIDE IS SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ABILITY TO CARRY ON A RATIONAL DIALOGUE WITH PRESIDENT SADAT. ADD TO THIS THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAS A LIVELY AWARENESS THAT HE MUST TURN TO THE SOVIETS IF HE WANTS TO RENEW THE WAR, AND THAT IF THE WAR IS WON WITH SOVIET AID, THE SOVIETS WILL BE THE REAL MASTERS OF THE MIDDLE EAST. THERE IS A CHANCE THAT WAR MAY BE AVOIDED, BUT ONLY AN OFF CHANCE.

13. IT IS FAR MORE LIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT WITH RESPECT TO THIS MIDDLE EASTERN PROBLEM, WE ARE NOW IN SOMETHING LIKE THE POSITION OF THE BRITISH AND FRENCH BEFORE ADOLPH HITLER'S REOCCUPATION OF THE RHINELAND. THE UNOPPOSED REOCCUPATION OF THE RHINELAND IN 1936 LED STRAIGHT ON TO WORLD WAR IN 1939. BUT IF THE REOCCUPATION HAD BEEN TOUGHLY OPPOSED, AND ABOVE ALL, IF HITLER HAD KNOWN IN ADVANCE IT WOULD BE TOUGHLY OPPOSED, THE RHINELAND WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN REOCCUPIED.

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14. THE OIL PRODUCING ARABS ARE FAR FROM RESEMBLING ADOLF HITLER. YET ANOTHER MIDDLE EASTERN WAR, PLUS ANOTHER ANTI U.S. OIL EMBARGO, PLUS ALL THE REST THAT NOW THREATENS IN THAT AREA, WILL FATALLY UPSET THE WORLD BALANCE OF POWER. AND THAT WAS THE REAL TROUBLE IN THE 1930S. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE244438
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PDENNIS:JC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740319-0134
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741165/aaaacdiv.tel
Line Count: 161
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 NOV 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 NOV 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS MATERIAL
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: AMMAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005